

Board of Selectmen MINUTES  
Special Meeting  
December 4, 2017 at 7:30 pm  
Town Hall Meeting Room

**Attendance:** First Selectman Chris Spaulding, Selectman Brian Gordon, Selectman Stephan Grozinger, Town Administrator Jonathan Luiz, Administrative Assistant Randi Derene and Weston Residents.

This meeting was videotaped and can be viewed on Channel 79 and on our Town of Weston website.

- 1- **Call to Order** – 7:30pm
- 2- **Pledge of Allegiance** led by Dennis Tracey
- 3- **Proclamation honoring Dennis Tracey** Mr. Spaulding presented the Proclamation to Mr. Tracey.
- 4- **Establishment of a Select Committee on Legal Review** Mr. Spaulding explained that we evaluate standing of current legal counsel. Mr. Tracy volunteered to help. Mr. Spaulding stated that it is recommended the town solicits law firms to be considered to be town counsel and it is important to make sure the bidding process is open and transparent and multiple law firms be invited. Mr. Spaulding explained that a Small committee needs to be formed, consisting of those who are most knowledgeable of what the town's legal needs are. Mr. Grozinger asked how many firms would be expected to respond. Mr. Tracey replied he thinks about 6 or 7 firms would respond. Mr. Spaulding sees having 4 or 5 members in this committee, including Jonathan, one of

the Board of Selectmen, Tracy Kulikowski, and maybe someone from P & Z. Mr. Tracey stated he will submit to a proposal.

Mr. Gordon moved to appoint Mr. Tracey to chair the Legal review committee, Mr. Grozinger seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- 5- Authorize First Selectman to hire or dismiss, subject to the General Statutes, paid employees other than Officers, heads of departments, or employees who do not report, directly or indirectly, to the Board of Selectmen (e.g. employees of the Board of Education and officers or members of the Police Department), pursuant to Section 5.1(c) of Town Charter** Mr. Luiz stated that this is a new provision in the 2014 charter. He also stated that Ms. Daniel wanted to use it on a case by case situation. Mr. Grozinger asked what type of position this would capture. Mr. Luiz replied all positions except for town administrator, police employees, finance director.... Mr. Gordon confirmed all of these positions are budgeted and not all are union members. Mr. Grozinger asked how frequently this was used. Mr. Grozinger also stated he feels a little uncomfortable and feels the language is ambiguous. He stated Section 4.2(i) doesn't address termination, just says by default the Board of Selectmen has authority to terminate. Mr. Grozinger would like to give this some more time. Mr. Luiz said you may want to consider waiving this regarding seasonal hires.
- NO MOTION MADE

**6- Board of Selectmen initiatives – (attach spreadsheet to minutes)**

Mr. Spaulding reviewed all the initiatives to see if there were any questions – no questions were asked by Mr. Gordon or Mr. Grozinger. Mr. Spaulding also clarified that each of these initiatives are just ideas and it doesn't mean they will happen.

NO MOTION MADE

- 7- **Memorandum of Understanding with the Board of Education for lease of space for the Senior Center** Mr. Luiz stated this MOU gives the BOE more time to decide if they want to utilize the space for something else and Extends their ability to make a decision on the lease .Mr. Grozinger moved to authorize the First Selectman to sign the addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding between with the Board of Education for the lease of space for the Senior Center. Mr. Gordon seconded, motion carried

**8- First Selectman's update**

- a. **Virtual Net Metering** - Board of Finance had concerns about spending 15k and maybe not getting study in time. The BOF asked Mr. Luiz to do some more research. Mr. Luiz has spoken with 4 consultants who each felt it would be challenging to get a specific system designed for each roof. There might be other options for VNM with other entities , in the meantime we asked Solomon energy to give us an extension (2 more months) to do a full scope
- b. **Code Red** – Mr. Spaulding stated he is having the discussion, looking at expanding the ability to broadcast situations which are not dire, perhaps placing notices in tax statements reminding people how to register for code red, how to report an outage, etc.
- c. **Fiscal Year 2017-18 Budget deficit and mitigation measures** - Mr. Spaulding stated the BOE came to the BOF a substantial deficit in regards to special education. Approximately 1.3 million – it has been mitigated internally by several hundred thousand dollars. Dr. McKersie will be coming to give us more details at the next BOS meeting.

**9- Approval of Minutes: October 19<sup>th</sup> , November 16<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>**

Mr. Grozinger moved to approve the BOS Minutes of October 19<sup>th</sup> 2017 – Mr. Gordon seconded, Motion carried with 2 abstentions.

Mr. Grozinger moved to approve the BOS Minutes of November 16<sup>th</sup> 2017 with one edit to item #16. Mr. Gordon seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Grozinger moved to approve the BOS Minutes of November 18<sup>th</sup> 2017, Mr. Gordon seconded, Motion carried unanimously.

#### **10- Executive Session**

##### **a. Discussion of the purchase of real estate**

At 8:43pm, Mr. Grozinger moved to enter into Executive Session to discuss the purchase of real estate. Mr. Gordon seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **11- Adjournment**

**I move to adjourn**

Minutes approved – January 18, 2018